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The American "Who's Who" and the English "Who's Who" give different addresses

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AUTH: HR TS-2

DATE: 19/2/8/ REVIEWER:

c/o The Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd. Northumberland Avenue, London, W.6. 2

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Mr. Allen Welsh Dulles 2723 Q St. Washington, 7

Dear Sir:

The present writer, a South African born in Joannesburg,
Transvaal, and at present residing in England, is engaged on a
bibliography of American writers on Africa - "South of the Sahara".

When I was in the United States in the early '30s, I spent a few days in Washington and visited the Library of Congress. I noticed in one of its catalogs that you, at the age of eight, had written a small book - or pamphlet, on the Boer War. I have tried hard to get a copy but without success and am writing to enquire whether you by the remotest chance possess a spare copy. Failing this I wonder if you would give me some particulars of this 'first thing' of your pen -- presumably so! - for biographical purposes? The title, date, etc., I can get from our South African Bibliography (Mendelssohn's).

As a youngster of about 8 years, I stood on the streets of

Joannesburg and saw Lord Robert's troops march in and haul down the

Old Republican flag and hoist the Union Jack. The town was surrendered

by an intimate family friend of ours -- D. Krause - now a retired Judge (at 91).

Thanking you - yours sincerely,

"SOUTH AFRICA ".

JANUARY 27, 1951.

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A SOUTH AFRICAN'S DIARY

THE MARGINAL NOTES OF CECIL RHODES

SALISBURY HOUSE, Friday.

Cecil Rhodes seems to have had the had habit, to which I am allergic when practised by lesser men in my library books, of reading with a pencil. The only difference in his case is that the marginal notes sent up the value of a book instead of merely sending up one's blood.

That inseterate collector of Africana Mr. G. Lewin, has just picked up one of Rhodes's books. The volume itself is of little account. It is "Matabeleland and How We Got It," by Captain C. L. Norr's Newman, described as "Reuter's Special Commissioner." It is a first-hand impression of the war against Lobengula, the last of many such accounts, as "Softh Africas" reviewer wearily remarked at the time it was published in 1895, but its only importance to-day lies in the fact that Rhedes not only owned it but read it.

It bears his bockplate, with the family crest, and here and there he sciawled his comments in red pencil. Even I could swear to the authenticity of the handwriting, it is so uniformly undecipherable. At one point he has been calculating the total number of Europeans in the two columns. 269 in one, 397 in the other—and the result, according to his sample addition, is 686. Even a newspaperman could make a better shot than that!

Possibly the most important part of the notes is a page of end-papers on which Rhodes has scrawled what seems to be a personal footnote to the Rudd Concession, but as I found myself unable to make head or tail of a I miss take its importance for granted.

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